Amendment dated July 8, 2009 Reply to Office Action of April 8, 2009

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

[0028] The possible displacement path of the ball cage 10 relative to the profiled journal 1 id delimited, on the one hand, by a securing ring 27 inserted into an annular groove 12 at the end 2 of the profiled journal 1 and against which the ball cage 10 is able to abut. On the other hand, in Figure 1, the displacement path of the ball cage 10 is delimited by a stop sleeve 13 arranged between the ball cage 10 and the ball hub 4. The stop sleeve 13, by a first end 14, is supported on the ball hub 4, the ball cage 10 rests in a planar way against the second end 15 of the stop sleeve 13. The length of the stop sleeve 13 is such that the balls 11 facing the stop sleeve 13, in the end position of the ball cage 10, are each arranged with an axial distance from the ball groove run-out 7. The stop sleeve 13 thus prevents the ball cage 10 from moving out of its position shown in Figure 1 towards the end 3 of the profiled journal 1, as a result of which the balls 11 at the joint end of the ball cage are prevented from running into the ball groove run-out. The displacement path of the ball[[s]] cage 10 relative to the profiled sleeve 25, at the joint end, is delimited by a securing ring (not illustrated) which is inserted into an annular groove 28 at the end of the profiled sleeve 25 and acts as an anti-extraction aid during transport. The securing ring can be abutted by the balls 11 at the joint end, so that the profiled journal 1 is prevented from sliding out of the profiled sleeve 25. At the shaft end, the displacement path of the ball cage 10 is delimited in that it abuts the ball groove run-out 29. The balls 11 are thus prevented from jamming at the ball groove run-out 29 during transport.

Please add the following paragraphs after paragraph [0029]:

[0029A] The outer diameter 19 of the stop sleeve 13 is smaller than a smallest inner diameter of the profiled sleeve 25 in the region of the ball grooves 26.

[0029B] The stop sleeve 13 may be constructed of plastic or metal.